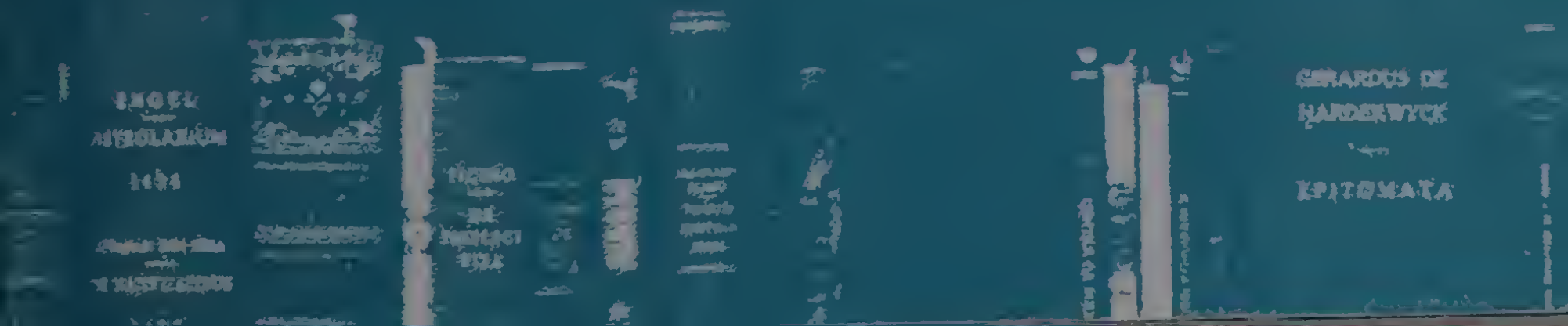
The National Library of Medicine

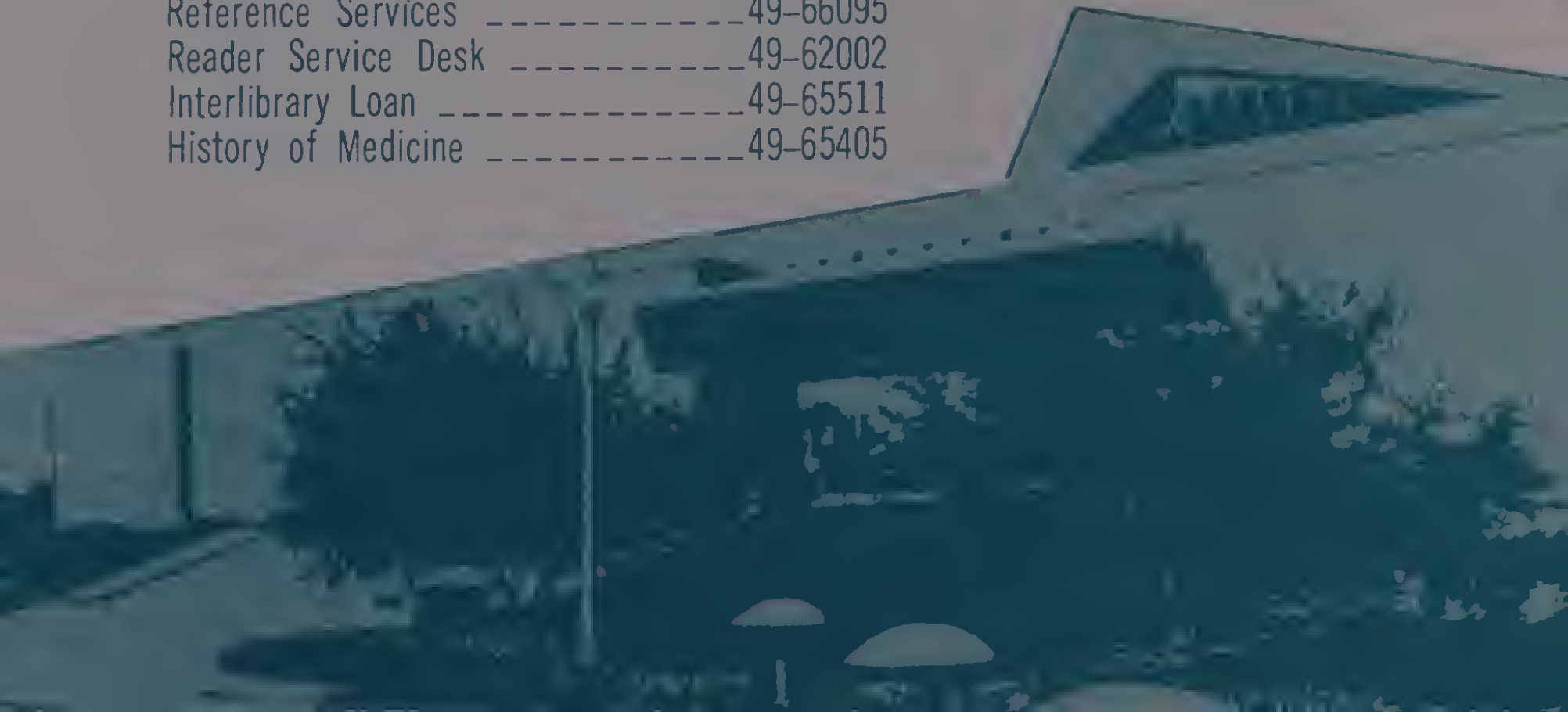


NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Telephone Numbers

Listed Number	301-656-4084
Government IDS Code	14
Direct In-Dialing	496
Reference Services	49-66095
Reader Service Desk	49-62002
Interlibrary Loan	49-65511
History of Medicine	49-65405



The National Library of Medicine is the world's largest research library in a single scientific and professional field. The Library's holdings total nearly 1,300,000 books, journals, theses, pamphlets, prints, and microfilms. More than 70 languages are represented in the collection.

Holdings in the literature of biomedical and related sciences include: 315,000 monographs, 310,000 bound journal volumes, 285,000 theses, 168,000 pamphlets, 4,500 reels of microfilm, and 60,000 portraits and illustrations. About 18,000 serial titles are received each year.

Materials are collected exhaustively in some 40 biomedical areas and, to a lesser degree, in a number of related subject areas such as general chemistry, physics, zoology, botany, psychology, and instrumentation. The Library acquires new material at the rate of approximately 90,000 items a year.

HOURS OF PUBLIC SERVICE*

MAIN READING ROOM

Monday through Friday	8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Summer Hours	
Monday through Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Monday through Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

BUILDING TOURS

Monday through Friday at 3:00 p.m. For special arrangements, call 49-66308 or write to the office of the Assistant to the Director.

* The Library is closed on National Holidays.

View of Main Reading Room

Public Catalog Room as seen from the Mezzanine
Abstract ceramic mural by Frans Wildenhain.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

Bethesda, Maryland

Contract awarded June 1959. Building occupied April 1962.

Construction contract awarded at	$4,370,000
Elevator contract awarded at	94,988
Stack contract awarded at	172,377
Contract cost*	4,637,365

* Does not include cost of furniture, general equipment, art work, or landscaping.

Area	231,855	Cost per sq. ft.	$20.01
Volume	3,187,476	Cost per cu. ft.	1.45

Book capacity: 1,162,000 volumes

Catalog drawers: 4550 @ 1000 cards

Seating capacity: 200 readers (excl. of staff areas)

Number of staff positions: 397 (auth. 1967)

6 Overall dimensions: 276′ 4″ x 192′ 10″

Modular column spacing: 21′ 0″ x 21′ 1″

Floor to ceiling heights: C Level—8′ 6″; B Level—8′ 6″;
A Level—9′ 0″;
First Floor—9′ 9″ and 14′ 0″;
Mezzanine—9′ 8″

Structural frame: Reinforced concrete—below grade; Steel—above grade

Exterior walls: Indiana Limestone, granite and marble trim

Interior walls: Painted cinder block, plaster, wood panelling,
plastic wall covering in various locations

Floors: Vinyl-asbestos in stack areas
rubber in special public areas
oak and walnut in History of Medicine Reading Room
terrazzo in lobby
ceramic tile in toilet rooms

Ceilings: Mineral acoustic tile in general except in stack areas

Stacks: Metal bracket type stacks, 10″ shelves

Illumination: Fluorescent
mercury vapor in Public Catalog area

8 Air conditioning: Entire building—low and high velocity system; zone controlled, fully automatic summer-winter, day-night control; 24-hour system in History of Medicine

Heating: Low pressure steam

Elevators: Oildraulic

Entrance panel: Swenson Green

Cornice and base: Mount Airy Granite

Panels at windows: Imperial Danby Marble

Lobby walls: Granox Golden Buff Marble

Columns in Public Catalog Room: Cliffdale and Imperial Danby Marble

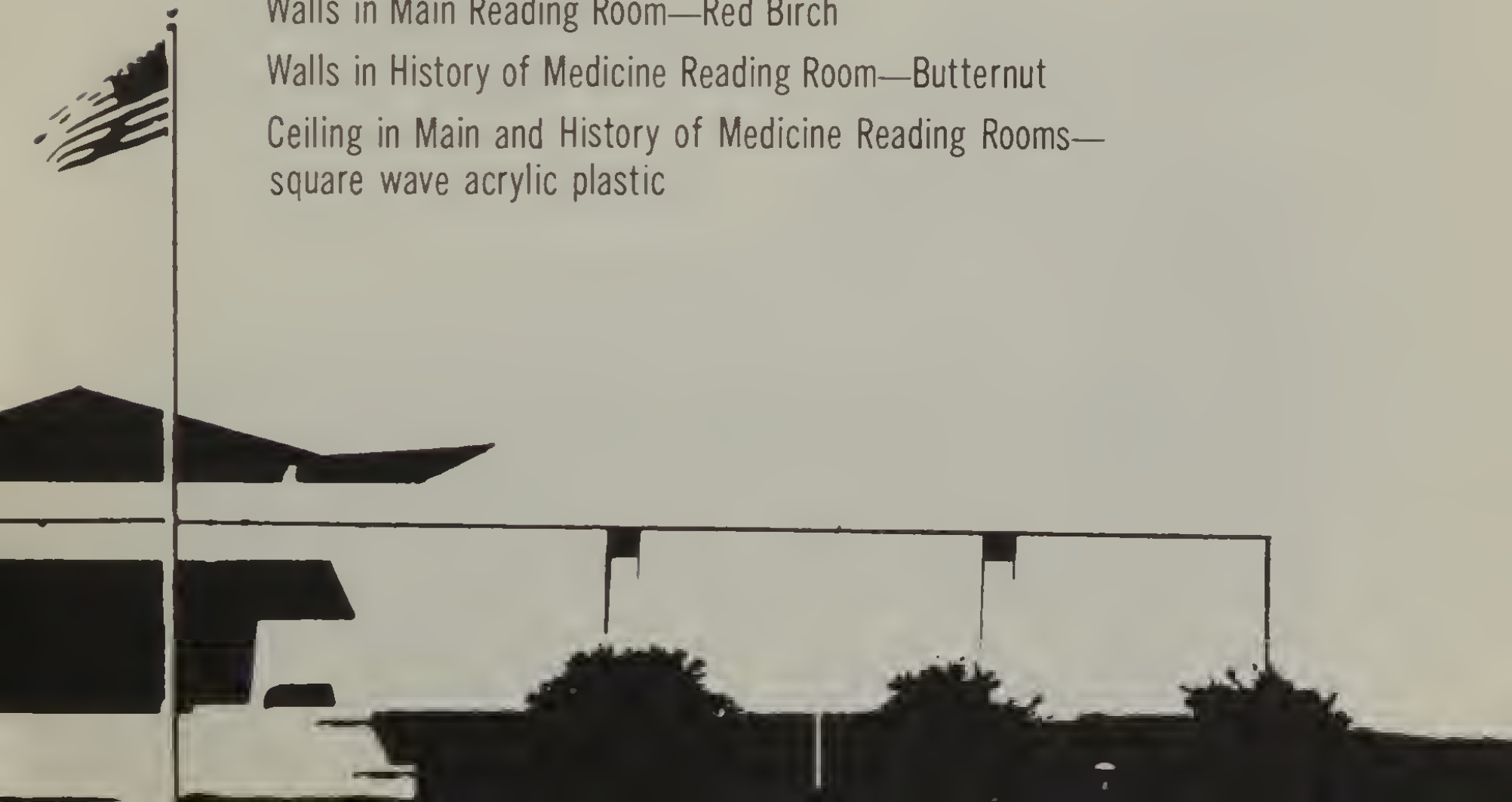
Columns in Main Reading Room—Maryland Verde Antique & Cliffdale Marble

Walls in Public Catalog Room—Walnut

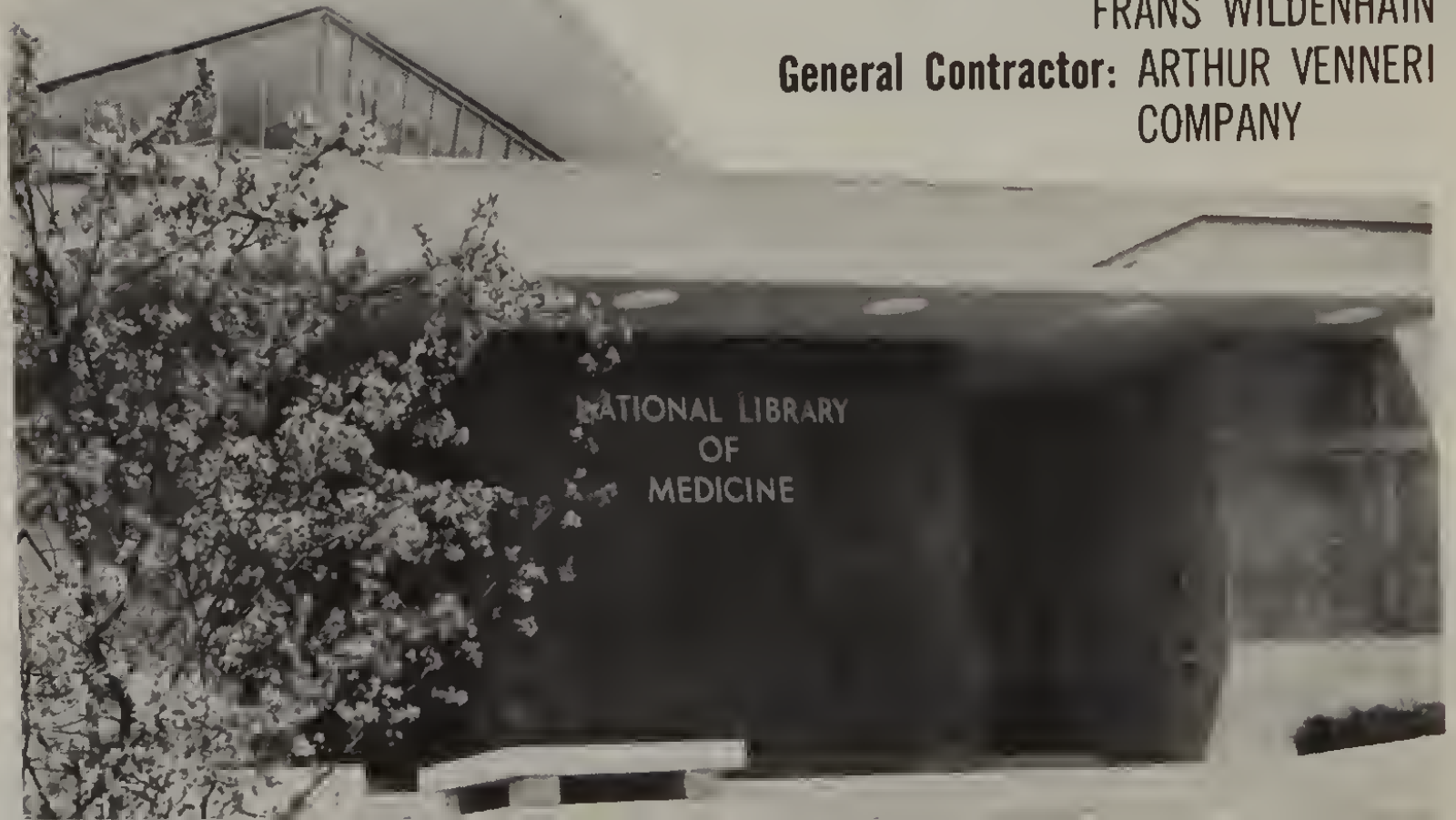
Walls in Main Reading Room—Red Birch

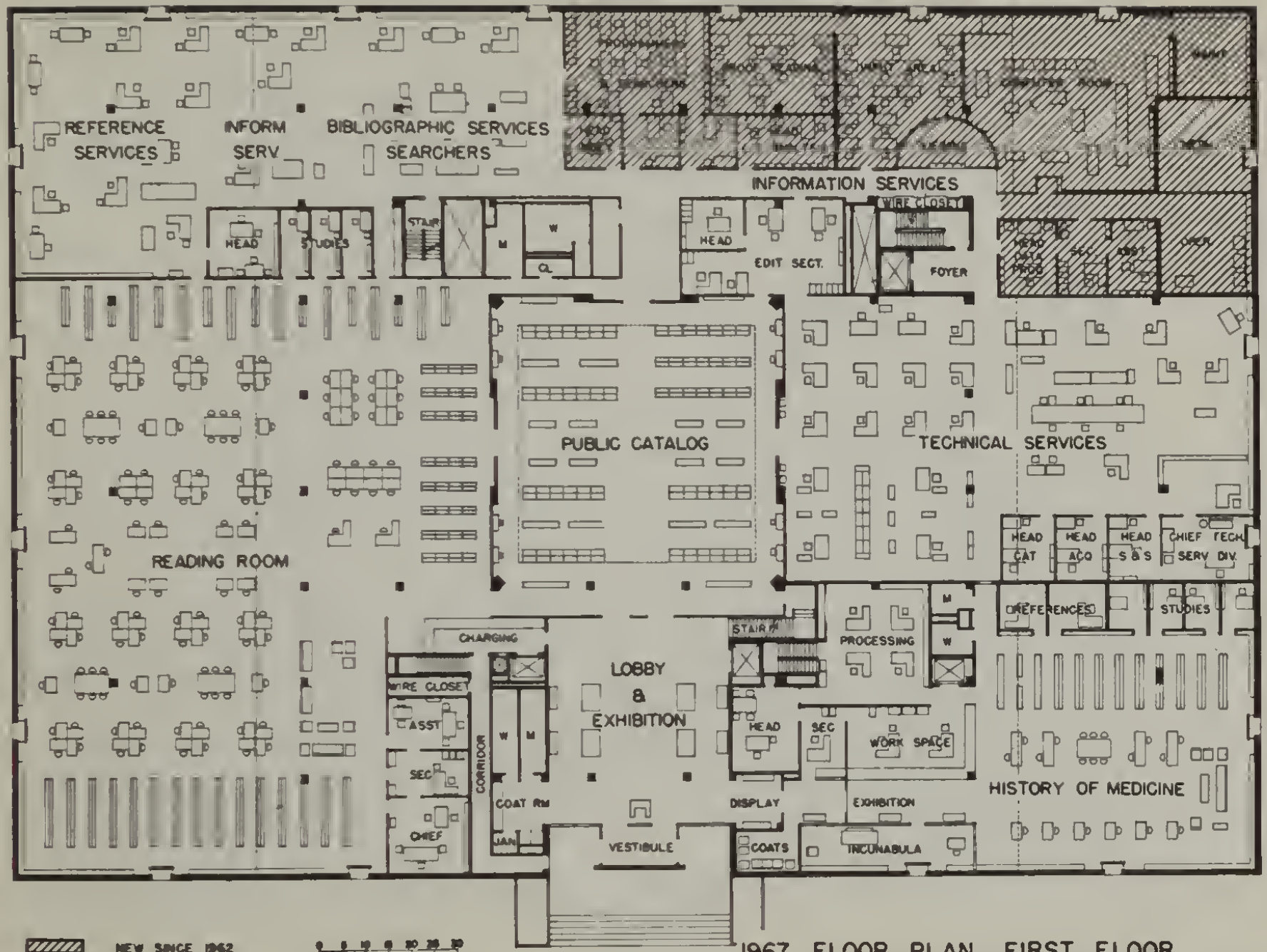
Walls in History of Medicine Reading Room—Butternut

Ceiling in Main and History of Medicine Reading Rooms—
square wave acrylic plastic



Architects: O'CONNOR and KILHAM; Project Manager, R. M. BEDER
Consultants: KEYES D. METCALF, Library Consultant
SEVERUD-ELSTAD-KRUEGER, Associates, Structural Engineers
JAMES MONGITORE Associates, Mechanical Engineers
BOLT, BERANEK, and NEWMAN, INC., Acoustical Consultants
TERESA KILHAM, Color Consultant
JEANNETTE MINTURN, Landscape Architect
Artists: C. PAUL JENNEWEIN
FRANS WILDENHAIN
General Contractor: ARTHUR VENNERI COMPANY




REFERENCE SERVICES
INFORM SERV
BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES SEARCHERS
INFORMATION SERVICES
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STAIR
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EDIT SECT.
WIRE CLOSET
FOYER
PUBLIC CATALOG
TECHNICAL SERVICES
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COAT RM
JAN
LOBBY & EXHIBITION
VESTIBULE
STAIR
PROCESSING
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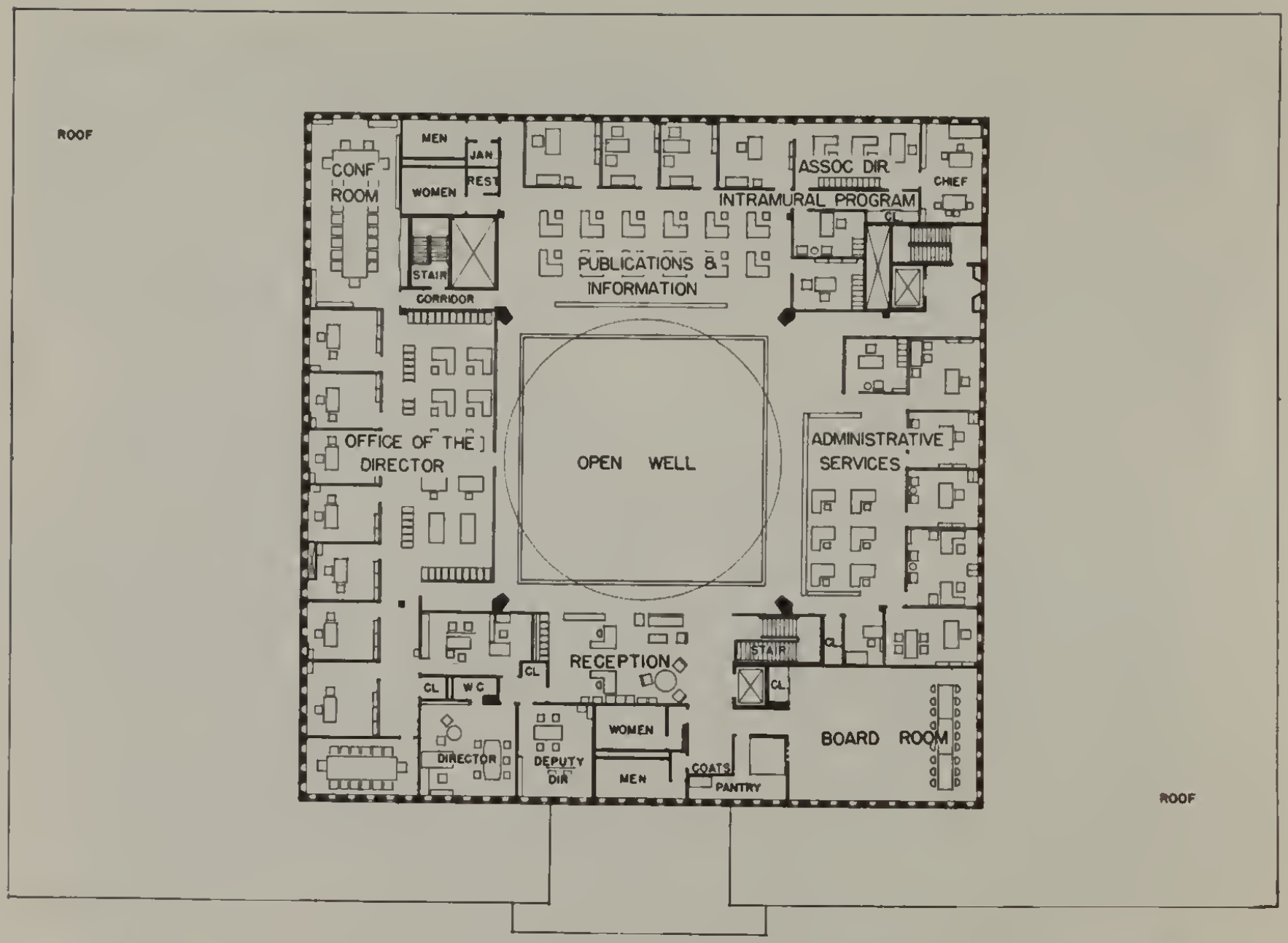
WORK SPACE
DISPLAY
EXHIBITION
COATS
INCUNABULA
HISTORY OF MEDICINE
NEW SINCE 1962
1967 FLOOR PLAN FIRST FLOOR



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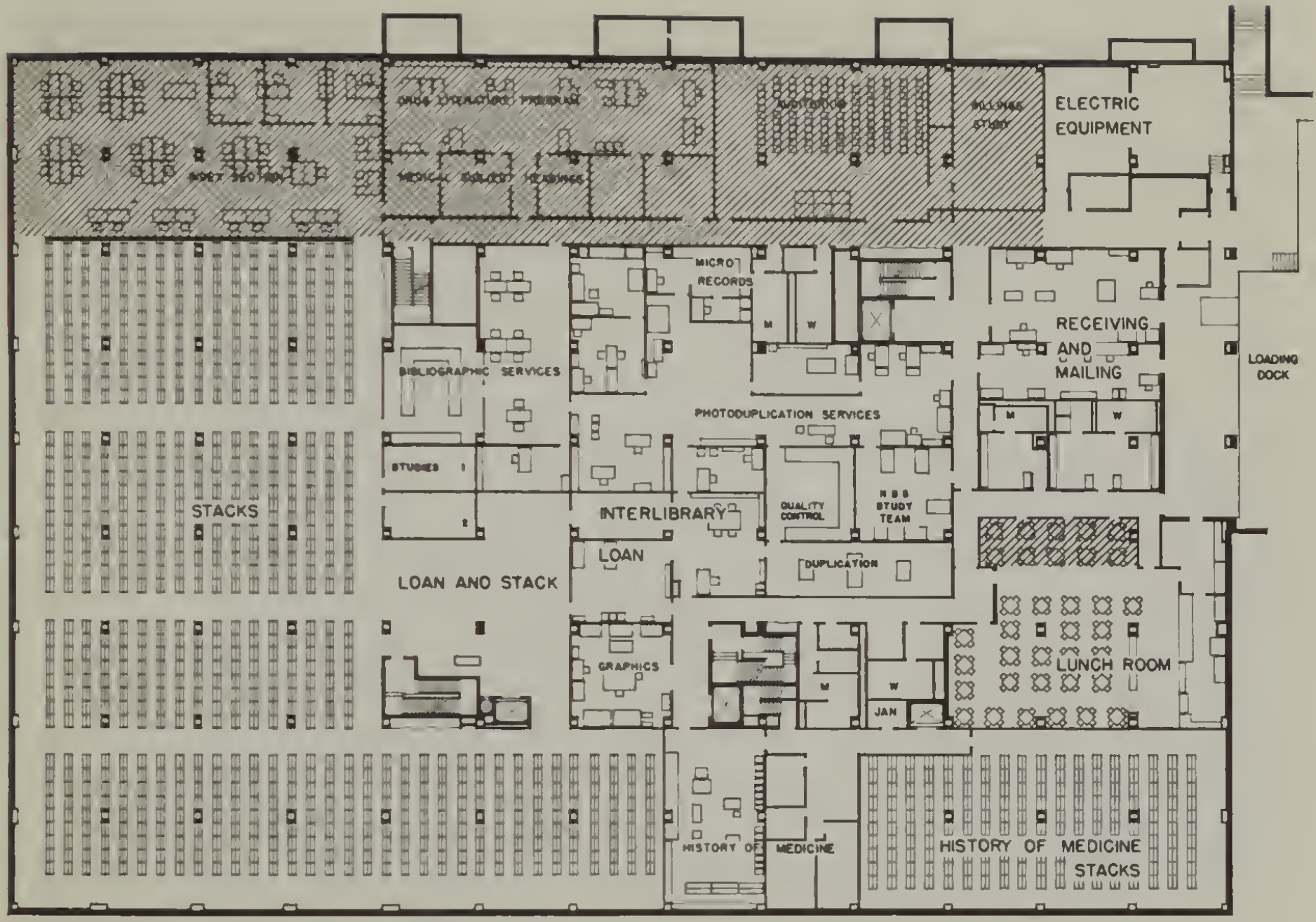
1967 FLOOR PLAN MEZZANINE



NEW SINCE 1962

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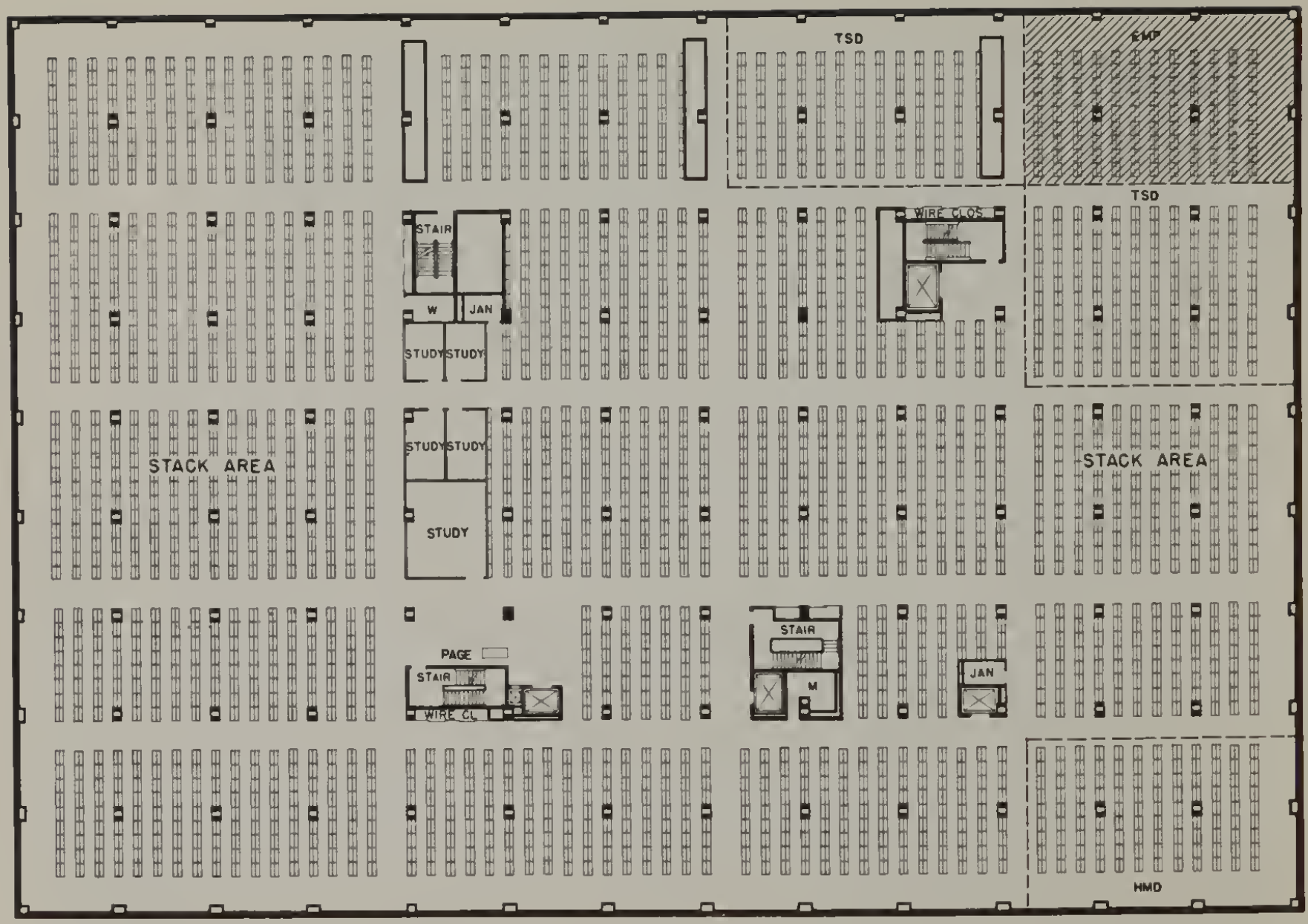
1967 FLOOR PLAN A LEVEL



NEW SINCE 1962

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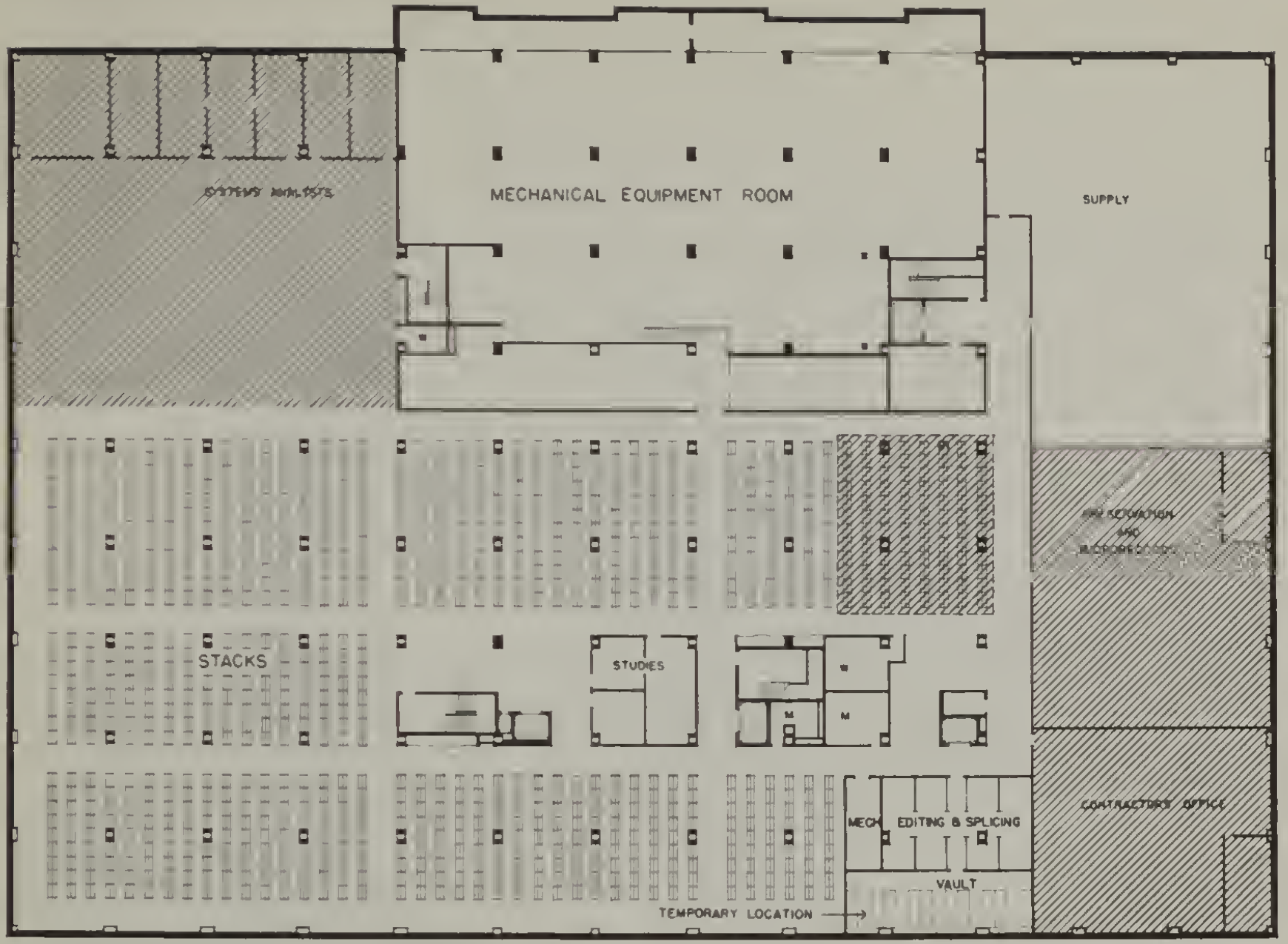
1967 FLOOR PLAN B LEVEL



NEW SINCE 1962

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1967 FLOOR PLAN C LEVEL

DIRECTORS OF THE LIBRARY

1865–1895	Deputy Surgeon General John Shaw Billings, M.C.
1896–1897	Assistant Surgeon General David Low Huntington, M.C.
1898–1902	Surgeon James Cushing Merrill, M.C.
1902–1902	Major Walter Reed, M.C.
1903–1904	Brigadier General Calvin DeWitt, M.C.
1904–1913	Brigadier General Walter Drew McCaw, M.C.
1913–1918	Colonel Champe Carter McCulloch, M.C.
1918–1919	Colonel Paul Frederick Straub, M.C.
1919–1919	Brigadier General Francis Anderson Winter, M.C.
1919–1924	Major General Robert Ernest Noble, M.C.
1924–1927	Colonel James Matthew Phalen, M.C.
1927–1932	Colonel Percy Moreau Ashburn, M.C.
1932–1936	Major Edgar Erskine Hume, M.C.
1936–1945	Colonel Harold Wellington Jones, M.C.
1945–1946	Colonel Leon Lloyd Gardner, M.C.
1946–1949	Colonel Joseph Hamilton McNinch, M.C.
1949–1963	Colonel Frank Bradway Rogers, M.C.
1964–	Martin Marc Cummings, M.D.

Dr. John Shaw Billings

★ GPO : 1967 O—272-012

FORMER LIBRARY BUILDING

The Library was founded in 1836 as the Library of the Surgeon General's Office, U.S. Army. It was developed as a national resource under Dr. John Shaw Billings, Librarian from 1865–1895. In 1956, it became part of the Public Health Service under legislation introduced by Senators John F. Kennedy and Lister Hill and was officially named the National Library of Medicine.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Public Health Publication No. 507: Revised June 1967